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qualified teacher of French, and especially so by one who has at heart the principles of the Direct Method.

Boston University.

JAMES GEDDES, JR.

**Otto Ernst, Asmus Sempers Jugendland**, edited by Carl Osthaus.

D. C. Heath & Co., 1916. 12 mo., xi + 305 pp.; 60 cents.

*Asmus Sempers Jugendland*, written in 1904 by Otto Ernst (Schmidt), and now edited for American schools by Professor Osthaus, represents a labor of love on the part of both author and editor. The novel, a most artistic portrait of the author's own boyhood, gives us a very realistic view of many institutions of modern Germany. We find in it a wonderful description of the milieu but always by an optimist, and without any plainly visible attempt at dogmatization or moralization. The story grips the heart-strings of the reader, and the book offers splendid opportunities on every page for a study of German 'Realien'.

Professor Osthaus's edition of this novel is an excellent piece of work. The Introduction shows such a careful study and deep appreciation of Otto Ernst's works, and is so well worded, that it is certainly worth rereading.

The abridging of the novel for class-room use is less pleasing, for it destroys the continuity, the author's even flow of thought and language. The hand of the stranger interrupts and disturbs. However, the abridgment is done with such skill as to reduce this evil to a minimum.

The Notes and Vocabulary are very satisfactory. They are so well worked out that a high school sophomore, taking third semester German, read the entire 176 pages in eight days, one hour each day, without finding any word, phrase, or sentence new to him, that was not fully explained, excepting the one word "Blattern" page 73, line 7. On page 180, a note states that the usual day for confirmation in Germany is the first Sunday after Easter. Is it not the Sunday before Easter, Palm Sunday? Page 189, note 4, should read "In lines 15-17," not "10-12." Page 199, "war . . . doch in die Glieder gefahren" is translated too freely. I should translate it "had, after all, given them a good scare." Page 204, the meaning of the proverb "Ein Schelm," etc., should be given.

The book is singularly free from typographical errors. I found only one, and that may not be typographical. On page 61, line 6, I should substitute "nun" for "nur."

These suggested changes or corrections are mere trifles. What I really regret is that the edition does not present German questions on the text. There are three large classes of teachers who need them. Those who do not have a ready command of modern every-day German, those who have neither sufficient experience nor training to ask pedagogically correct questions, and those over-worked teachers who cannot possibly find the time to write out and multigraph the questions.

The book is excellent for third semester German in college or fourth semester in high school.

Glenville High School,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

O. P. KLOPSCH.